



## City of Annapolis

Department of Neighborhood and Environmental Programs  
145 Gorman St  
Annapolis, MD 21401

January 14, 2013

TO: Regina C. Watkins-Eldridge, MMC  
City Clerk

FROM: Rick Kissel  
Acting Chair

RE: Annual Report 2012 – Annapolis Environmental Commission

### Duties:

To be concerned with the protection and improvement of the natural health and welfare of the environment; to coordinate recycling activities; to identify and study specific environmental problems; and to review matters before other City bodies affecting the environment. The Commission shall make recommendations to the City Council and other City bodies, determine the source of environmental problems, collect information about solutions to these problems, and educate the public (and individuals or organizations who are the source of particular problems) concerning their relations to the problems and their relation to the solutions.

### Attendance:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Diane Butler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Rick Kissel	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bill O'Leary	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Christina Pompa	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				N/A	N/A
Suzanne Pogell	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	
Rachael Rachfal	X						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kurt Riegel	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	X	X	X	X
Theodore Weber	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tom Zolper	N/A	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X

X Present  
NA Not Applicable  
[blank] Not Present  
[ ] No Meeting

## Activity Summary

- Researched environmental issues pertaining to the proposed Reserve at Quiet Waters, Crystal Spring, and Hayes property developments, participated in relevant Council Working sessions and Working Groups, and recommended priority areas to preserve.
- Submitted testimony to the Board of Appeals regarding the Reserve at Quiet Waters property
- Provided information and advice to the mayor's Forest Conservation Working Group
- Commented on Forest Stand Delineation for Crystal Spring
- Met with the developers of Crystal Spring to help reduce the environmental impact of their proposed site plan
- Supported state environmental legislation (specifically, increasing the Bay Restoration Fund, the Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act, the Stormwater Management - Watershed Protection and Restoration Program, the Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act, the Community Cleanup and Greening Act, and full funding for land protection from the dedicated real estate transfer tax)
- Supported Certified Annapolis Environmental Stewards program
- As with previous years, assisted rain barrel & compost bin sale. 670 Compost Bins & Rain Barrels and 160 composting accessories were sold this year.
- Led rain barrel and compost installation demonstrations
- Performed canvassing and helped install free rain barrels and compost bins to Habitat for Humanity houses in Annapolis
- Assisted installation of rain barrels in Eastport in concert with MAP Clean, Safe, and Green Committee
- Met with city staff about recycling issues
- Wrote letter of support to the Historic Preservation Commission regarding replacement of street trees
- Wrote letters opposing the removal of trash cans from city parks. The city subsequently reconsidered this decision.
- Participated in Annapolis GreenScape
- Supported the Annual Earth, Water and Faith Festival
- Supported efforts to improve water quality in Annapolis waters
- Supported permeable pavers when replacing city sidewalks
- Provided monthly updates to area residents on environmental issues via the AEC newsletter, web site, and Facebook page.
- Participated in several meetings and conference calls with the Mayor during 2012 to discuss development, particularly on meeting requirements of the Forest Conservation Act and preservation of wetlands, as well as other environmental issues.
- Met with the developers of the Crystal Spring development to discuss preserving more forest and the wetlands on the Crystal Spring site.
- Provided written comments during the public comment period for review of the city's draft Criteria for justification of destruction of Priority Forest for retention under the Forest Conservation Act.

- Recommended to the City that portions of the code (Section 17 and 21) be combined into one environmental code section rather than leaving the Forest Conservation Act in one section of the code and review and protection of other natural features in a separate section. The AEC has determined that such bifurcation in application and in the review/appeal process leads to delay and frustration for developers and inhibits adequate enforcement of environmental laws and regulations.
- Participated in two conflict resolution meetings with DNEP in order strengthen the collaborative relationship between DNEP and the AEC in their mutual goal of protecting the environment.

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Rick Kissel  
Acting Chair  
Annapolis Environmental Commission